**Vocabulary: Layers of the Earth**

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| **Vocabulary Word** | **Definition** |
| **1. Inner core** | -Ball of hot, solid metal at Earth’s center  -Very high pressure causes it to be solid |
| **2. Outer core** | -Layer of liquid metal surrounding the inner core  -Less pressure and lower temperature than inner core |
| **3. Mantle** | -Thickest layer of Earth made up of hot rock; less dense than core  -Uppermost part of mantle is cool and rigid. Just below that, the rock is hot and soft enough to move like a thick paste. |
| **4. Crust**   * **Continental crust** * **Oceanic crust** | -Thin layer of cool rock that surrounds Earth like an eggshell; 2 types   * Continental crust includes all continents (less dense; mostly composed of granite) * Oceanic includes all the ocean floors(more dense; mostly composed of basalt) |
| **5. Lithosphere** | -Made up of the crust and the cool, rigid part of the upper mantle.  -It is broken into tectonic plates and sits on top of the asthenosphere |
| **6. Asthenosphere** | -Layer of hotter, softer rock in Earth’s upper mantle; flows like tar  -Lithosphere (tectonic plates) sits on the asthenosphere |
| **7. Relative position** | -The location of something in comparison to its surroundings |
| **8. Composition** | -The makeup of a substance; the composition of carbon dioxide (CO2) is one carbon atom and 2 oxygen atoms |
| **9. Density** | -The amount of “stuff” present (mass) in a certain amount of space (volume); Density = Mass/Volume |
| **10. Convection currents** | -Convection = heat transfer by the movement of fluids  -Hot, soft rock in the asthenosphere and the lower mantle move by convection.  -Hotter, less dense rock rises. Cooler, denser rock sinks back down, only to be heated and rise again |